



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/904,269	07/12/2001	Dennis L. Matthies	INTL-0571-US (P11416)	2029
21906	7590	01/18/2006	EXAMINER	
TROP PRUNER & HU, PC 8554 KATY FREEWAY SUITE 100 HOUSTON, TX 77024			DONG, DALEI	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2879	

DATE MAILED: 01/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.A

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/904,269

Applicant(s)

MATTHIES, DENNIS L.

Examiner

Dalei Dong

Art Unit

2879

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed in this application after a decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, but before the filing of a Notice of Appeal to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or the commencement of a civil action. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the appeal has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on November 1, 2005 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
3. Claims 1, 2 and 4-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,855,637 to Yakou in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,914,150 to Porter.

Regarding to claim 1, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, a method comprising: temporarily flattening a sheet (1 or 2, with a vacuum chuck); processing the sheet while the sheet is held in a flattened configuration; and securing the sheet (1 or 2) to

a second sheet (1 or 2) while continuing to hold the sheet (1 or 2) in a flattened configuration.

However, Yakou does not disclose applying row and column electrodes to the sheet.

Porter teaches in Figures 9 and 12, applying row and column electrodes to a sheet (see column 28, lines 37-48) for the purpose of efficiently controlling the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the row and column electrodes of Porter for the flat-panel display of Yakou in order to efficiently control the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Regarding to claim 2, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, temporarily flattening the sheet (1 or 2) includes placing the sheet in a vacuum chuck and applying a vacuum to flatten the sheet.

Regarding to claim 4, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, applying a light emitting material to the sheet.

Regarding to claim 5, Porter discloses in Figures 9 and 12, applying a light emitting material to the sheet includes applying an organic light emitting material

Art Unit: 2879

between the row and column electrodes, and the motivation to combine is the same as above.

Regarding to claim 6, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, processing the second sheet (1 or 2) in a flattened configuration.

Regarding to claim 7, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, the second sheet (1 or 2) in a chuck.

Regarding to claim 8, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, both the first and second sheets (1 and 2) in chucks and combining the sheets using the chucks.

Regarding to claim 9, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the first and second sheets (1 and 2) to an integrator plate (4).

Regarding to claim 10, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, surface mounting the first and second sheets (1 and 2).

Regarding to claim 11, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, surface mounting the first and second sheets (1 and 2) in the chucks.

Regarding to claim 12, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, a method comprising: receiving a warped sheet; temporarily flattening a sheet (1 or 2, with a vacuum chuck) for processing; processing the flattened, and securing the flattened, warped sheet to a planar surface.

However, Yakou does not disclose applying row and column electrodes to the sheet.

Porter teaches in Figures 9 and 12, applying row and column electrodes to a sheet (see column 28, lines 37-48) for the purpose of efficiently controlling the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the row and column electrodes of Porter for the flat-panel display of Yakou in order to efficiently control the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Regarding to claim 13, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the flattened sheet (1 or 2) to a second sheet while continuing to hold the flattened sheet in a flattened configuration.

Regarding to claim 14, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, temporarily flattening the sheet (1 or 2) includes placing the sheet in a vacuum chuck and applying a vacuum to flatten the sheet.

Regarding to claim 15, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the flattened sheets (1 and 2) to rigid, planar integrating plate (4).

Regarding to claim 16, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, a method comprising: temporarily flattening a ceramic sheet (1 or 2, with a vacuum chuck); processing the glass panel while the sheet is held in a flattened configuration; and securing the sheet (1 or 2) to the glass panel (1 or 2) while continuing to hold the sheet (1 or 2) in a flattened configuration.

However, Yakou does not disclose applying row and column electrodes to the sheet.

Porter teaches in Figures 9 and 12, applying row and column electrodes to a sheet (see column 28, lines 37-48) for the purpose of efficiently controlling the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilize the row and column electrodes of Porter for the flat-panel display of Yakou in order to efficiently control the discharge of the flat-panel display.

Regarding to claim 17, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, securing the flattened sheets (1 and 2) to rigid, planar integrating plate (4).

Regarding to claim 18, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, temporarily flattening the ceramic sheet by placing the sheet in a vacuum chuck and applying a vacuum to flatten the sheet.

Regarding to claim 19, Porter discloses in Figures 9 and 12, applying an organic light emitting material between the row and column electrodes, and the motivation to combine is the same as above.

Regarding to claim 20, Yakou discloses in Figures 1-5, 35 and 36, processing both the sheet and the panel in chucks and combining the sheet and panel using the chucks.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2 and 4-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dalei Dong whose telephone number is (571)272-2370. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 A.M. to 5 P.M..

Art Unit: 2879

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar Patel can be reached on (571)272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



D.D.

January 10, 2006



Joseph Williams
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2879